THE SISTERS.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER. Annie and Rhoda, sisters twain, Woke in the night to the sound of rain, The rush of wind, the ramp and roar Of great waves climbing a rocky shore. Annierose up in her bed gown white, And looked out into the storm and night. "Hush, and hearken?" she cried in fear, "Hearest thou nothing, sister dear!" "I hear the sea, and the plash of rain, And roar of the northeast hurricane. Get thee back to the bed so warm, No good comes of watching a storm. What is it to thee, I fain would know, That waves are roaring and wild winds blow? No lover of thine's affoat to miss The harbor-lights on a night like this." "But I heard a voice cry out my name, Up from the sea, on the wind it came! Twice and thrice have I heard it call, And the voice is the voice of Estwick Hall? On her pillow the sister tossed her head. "Hall of the 'Heron' is safe," she said "In the tautest schooner that ever swam He rides at anchor in Annisquam. And, if in peril from swamping sea Or lee-shore rocks, would be call on thee?" But the girl heard only the wind and tide,

And wringing her small white hands, she cried "O sister Rhoda, there's something wrong; I hear it again, so loud and long. 'Annie! Annie!' I hear it call, And the voice is the voice of Estwick Hall! Up sprang the elder, with eyes aflame; "Thou liest! He never would call thy name

If he did, I would pray the wind and sea To keep him forever from thee and me!" Then out of the sea blew a dreadful blast: Like the cry of a dying man it passed. The young girl hushed on her lips a groan, But through her tears a strange light shone-The solemn joy of her heart's release

To own and cherish its love in peace. "Dearest," she whispered, under breath, "Life was a lie, but true is death. The love I hid from myself away Shall crown me now in the light of day. My ears shall never to wooer list, Never by lover my lips be kissed.

Sacred to thee am I henceforth, Thou in heaven and I on earth!' She came and stood by her sister's bed : "Hall of the 'Heron' is dead," she said; "The wind and the waves their work have done We shall see him no more beneath the sun. Little will reck that heart of thine,

It loved him not with a love like mine. I, for his sake, were he but here, Could hem and 'broider thy bridal gear, Though hands should tremble and eyes be wet, And stitch for stitch in my heart be set. But now my soul with his soul I wed;

Thine the living, and mine the dead !" Atlantic Monthly.

A DINNER OF HERBS.

Between eight and nine o'clock on a fine September morning, a young married couple stood together at the window of a charming little house, pleasantly situated at Norwood. The neatly-appointed breakfast equipage had not been as yet removed by the spruce maid-servant, but the meal had concluded, and the

master of the little cottage was about to take his departure by train for the scene of his daily Robert Denwillow was only a solicitor's con-

fidential clerk, on a salary of rather less than the much-abused three hundred pounds per an num; yet he contrived to find life very tolera-ble on the whole. He was a fine, honest-faced, stalwart person, about thirty-two or three, who loved his friends, his old mother and sisters, and adored his pretty, spoilt, wilful, loving wife—a bright-eyed, petulant, chirping little woman, ten years his junior.

The morning was splendid; the room 7as cheerful, the servant-maid brisk and willing, and the eggs and rashers had been unexcep tional, the coffee clear, the rolls crisp, and the butter, really butter. Yet for all that, as she stood amid the flowers in her bay-windowherself, in her white dress and blue ribbons, the most attractive object there—there was a sullen pout on Selina Denwillow's pretty mouth that was not pleasant to see.

"Come, dear, I must go in two minutes," said her husband. "I think I shall be home early to-day. You promised me a roast leg of pork, you know."

"And you promised me that gray moire ansulkily.

"But, Lina, dear, I had no notion morres guineas for it."
"Well?"

"Well! Why, it is the twelfth part of our Southwest Georgian. whole year's income.

"But if it was to please me?" "To please you I would make a good many sacrifices, you know well, my dear Lina; but if I were to try to please you at that rate I should soon be in the Bankruptcy Court."

Lina tossed her golden head contemptu-

"Besides, what does my little wife want with such superb fabrics?" said her busband. laughing. "No, no, Lina. Leave moires to Harper's Magazine. They are read with equal duchesses. I like you best in your white mus-

better tempered when I come home, poppit." And whistling cheerily, away hurried Robert Denwillow to catch the train to London bridge. Like most of her sex, Lina could have borne any opposition better than her husband's im perturbable good temper. She was out of humor, and she knew it. She wanted to quarrel, and she would quarrel, and she couldn't because it takes two parties to a quarrel, and her husband had not afforded her the slightest

excuse for giving way to her ill-humor. No sooner was he fairly out of sight than the little woman rang the bell furiously. "Ann!"

"Yes, ma'am."

"When the green-grocer calls, turnips and potatoes."

'Yes, ma'am." "And when the butcher calls, a leg of mutton for boiling."

And there was a malicious twinkle in Mrs. Denwillow's eyes. Ann opened her mouth wide with astonish-"Lor', ma'am," I thought master said some-

thing about roast pork." "Never mind what your master said-" "But, ma'am," remonstrated Ann, boldly. "master can't bear boiled mutton, and then I've of five subscribers at \$4 each, in one remittance: got the onions for the stuffing." "Put on your bonnet immediately, Ann," returned her mistress, with stern dignity, " and

go to the Italian warehouse, and order a bottle of capers." And with a look of dismay Ann vanished. "Oh, my ! ain't she a tartar !" muttered she.

as she quitted. Mrs. Denwillow watched her servant close the door, and then smiled triumphantly. "There!" exclaimed she, in such a tone as Alexander the Great might have adopted after

a decisive victory ; "there! I think I've done it now." Five o'clock approached-the Denwillows' usual dinner hour. The boiling mutton began

to give signs and tokens of its presence in the house, and Lina's favorite little dog sniffed the savory order in the passages, and slobber "Dear me! I wish Robert would come."

thought little Mrs. Denwillow. "The mutton will be boiled to rags." A quarter past five-half-past five-but no master of the house forthcoming. Lina grew

exceedingly angry. "How dare he tease me like this?" she asked herself.

It must be known that there is nothing in pected person who does not come; and the little woman had this additional incentive to band a trick, and it seemed as if he were turning the tables on her. She thought of serving up dinner-she was fond of boiled muttonbut then she would lose her anticipated laugh; and, besides, her wifely instincts revolted from such a piece of selfishness as that,

Siz—half-past—nearly seven, and nor Robert

Denwillow! The little woman's anger had all

gone. She was now seriously alarmed. Thrice had she descended to the kitchen to confer with Ann, each time less angrily and more anxiously, and she was already thinking of paying her servant another visit, when Ann herself, with a hasty and unceremonious knock, entered the parlor. The girl looked flurried

and alarmed. "Oh, if you please, ma'am, you're not to be frightened, but Mr. Hodges, the station-master, has sent up to say as there's a accident on the

"A Crystal Palace train have run into the four-thirty, please, ma'am, and seventeen persons are killed, and many wounded. It's near New Cross, ma'am. Them accidents is always

near New Cross." "Oh!" sobbed poor Mrs. Denwillow, "I've lost the best husband—my poor Robert! And I so wicked to him. Oh! oh!"

"Law, no, if you please, ma'am, master ain't killed. Here's a 'gram as Mr. Hodges said I was to give you. It ought to have come an hour and a half ago, but were delayed in the confusion. Them 'grams always is delayed somehow," added Ann, solilequizingly. Lina seized the paper, and tore it open. It

ran thus: "DARLING: Don't be alarmed. Frightful useful to sufferers. Shall take cab home. Don't wait dinner.'

In the intense relief of her heart, Lina sobbed convulsively, and made an inward vow never to be so petulant and exacting in future. In a mood of mad penitence, she sat upon the sofa, forming a host of good resolutions, until attest: the sound of cab-wheels fell jo fully on her ears.
In two minutes more Robert Denwillow was in the parlor, clasping the penitent little wo-

man in his arms. "Oh, Bob, dear, I'm so sorry! And I've been so frightened! I'll never be so cross again!" sobbed she. The husband stroked her fair hair tenderly,

but did not reply. He judged it better to let her tears have their course. At last he said: "Well, dear, it's all right now, so let us go to dinner." "Oh, those poor people killed! I couldn't

eat any dinner." "Nonsense, there were no people killed only a score of broken arms and legs." "Why," exclaimed the little woman in surprise, "Ann told methere were seventeen persons killed."

Robert Denwillow laughed. "These sort of things are always grossly exaggerated," he said. "But come, I want my dinner—odd! I don't perceive the onions." "Oh, Bob, dear!" sighed his wife, coloring to the roots of her hair, "I-I'm so sorry, but

there's nothing but b-b-boiled mutton for dinner.' The good fellow winced for a moment, but he comprehended in an instant how matters stood, and said, gently:

"Well, dearest, a certain grand old book says, 'Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than—" Lina kissed him impetuously.

"You are an angel, Robert-a good manand I am a weak, silly, wicked little thing!" "Not wicked, pet!" "Oh, Robert," she said, earnestly, as she

bung round his neck, "bear with me, and forgive me!" "Forgive you, my darling !" said her hus-band, returning her caress. "Have we not all need of forbearance and forgiveness?" "Dinner's ready, please sir," cried Ann, en-

tering, with a covert smile on her face. "Well, Ann," returned her master, good-humoredly, and as if boiled mutton were his favorite dish, "I am hungry enough to do credit o your cooking."

Little Mrs. Denwillow, with a feeling of intense shame, took her seat at the head of the table. Ann removed the covers. The boiled mutton, sadly overdone, was there, it is true : but opposite her master Ann had placed a splendid rump-steak pie, which she had covered over, to produce the greater effect when dis-

Lina cast a grateful glance at her servant, whilst Robert Denwillow said : "This is famous! But how is it, Ann? I thought boiled mutton-'

"Well, sir," said Ann, with a gratified smile, and a sly glance at her mistress, "I thought as master don't like mutton, and the butcher's boy had a fine steak on his tray, I'd make a pie on my own 'sponsibility." "You have done quite rightly, Ann," said

her mistress, "and show good sense." Surely a merrier "dinner of herbs" never was than that, seasoned as it was by a renewal of love and confidence between the married couple. Mrs. Denwillow often spoke of it afterwards as the commencement of a long and happy life.

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1-(Resigned.)

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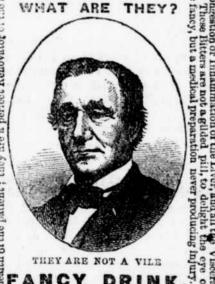
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While the editors of the NEW NATIONAL ERA are colored men, and the contributors will be mainly colored, yet the columns will be open for the discussion of all questions of vital importance to the country by any of its citizens. Communications suitable for publication in these columns, are solicited from our friends in all parts of the country, especially in the Southern States.

THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Upon all questions involving the especial inter ests of the colored American citizen, the simple rule of equal justice for all men will govern the the recognition of no right for one citizen which it will not freely accord to every other. It will oppose any attempt to confer privileges upon a class, that are withheld from the humblest citizen in the land. It will demand for every citizen equality before the law, and full protection of person and property in every State and Territory of the National Union.

The NEW NATIONAL ERA will take high ground upon all public questions, and labor to inspire a oneness of purpose and encourage unity of action, especially among the newly-enfranchised people of the Reconstructed States. Remembering the past history of the Republican party, CRUZ RUM, and flavored in such a manner and recognizing what it has done for the colored people of the nation, the New NATIONAL ERA will give its hearty support to that party without reserve. This pledge of fidelity to the Republipast, that party will be the steadfast and inflexible support of those principles of justice and liberty which have now become a part of the organic law of the land.

THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

By education the people of a free Government, such as ours is intended to be, are better qualified to discharge their duties to the State, and to one another. The nation will ever find its surest safeguard in the intelligence of its voting masses, and the journal which would promote the highest good of government and people must lend its energies and its power to the work of educating that people. Especially is the agency of the press needed by that portion of the people, colored and white, who, either in slavery or under the ban of its blighting influences, have been deprived of the opportunities enjoyed by their more favored brethren of the

The Freedmen's Bureau had under its charge during the past year, as shown by the last annual report, 114,523 colored pupils in the day schools and 89,731 in the Sunday schools, employing 6,650 teachers. About 190,000 of these pupils were slaves at the commencement of the war. The educational department of this paper will contain matter prepared and selected with special reference to the capacities and needs of this large number of pupils and teachers, thereby making the New National Era a valuable auxiliary in the scheme of education.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The industrial interests of the colored people will claim and receive a large share of our attention. We adopt the following extracts from the address promulgated by the Colored Labor Convention held in this city in December last, as indicating the views and policy of the New Na-

TIONAL ERA on this subject: "For our own good and the welfare of our country in all things pertaining to her material and moral well-being, we seek a better and broader opportunity to gain knowledge in the fields of agricultural, mechanical, commercial, artistic, and professional labor, and this knowledge we would energise, direct, and make more largely effective through the enlightening and sanctifying influence of education. Our mottoes are liberty and labor, enfranchisement and education! The spelling-book and the hoe, the hammer and the vote, the opportunity to work and to rise, a place on which to stand, and to be and to do, we ask for ourselves and children as the means in the use of which, under God, we are to compass these achievements which furnish the measure, the test, and justification of our claim to impartial treatment and fair

"That this end may be reached, we ask, first of all, that trades be opened to our children, and that they be given the benefit of a just and equitable system of apprenticeship; in the second place, that for every day's labor given we be paid full and fair remuneration, and that no avenue of honest industry be closed against us; and thirdly, since we believe that the intelligence, the elevation, and happiness of all people Pills to produce the desired effect: two of them of their iudusdrial pursuits, we ask that we Stomach, and Bowels of all impurities. The our color or former condition, since all that can | that mineral. be demanded by the employer is ability, faithful performances of the contract made, and the employee reasonable treatment and the compensation promised. Hence, while we condemn that spirit which in its proscriptive regulations denies us industrial opportunity and the fruits of honest should be used in connection with the Pills. toil, we rejoice in all those evidences of prospective good which we and other laboring classes up the system. The Bitters or Tonic purifies see in the erection of factories and foundries in | the Blood, strengthens the Nerves, regulates the Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Missouri, Ten- Liver, and gives strength, energy, and vigor. nessee, Georgia, and Alabama, promising that our strong and labor-hardened hands, our intellectual powers, quickened by the influences of education, and our purposes made doubly earnest by considerate treatment and the prospect of just compensation, shall all be given to the development of the industrial resources of our several States in the interest of our employers." The NEW NATIONAL ERA will be made a desi-

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ERA will be \$2.50 a year for single subscriptions, or 5 copies for \$10, in advance.

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Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried or Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a Lying Posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or webs before the Sight, Fever and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Back, Chest, Limbs, &c., Sudden Flushes of Heat,

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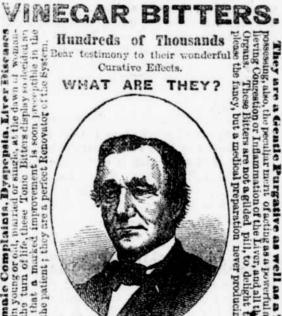
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